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WASHINGTON STAR
23 NOVEMBER 1980

THE EAR

DEEPER THROAT . . . Nobody's breathed a whisper about it yet, but Ear hears there's a *completely* new and different version of the Watergate story in the works. It's been cooking almost a year now, and will probably simmer another year before it's dished as a book by Random House publishers. It's by super-sleuth Jim Horgan. (He wrote "Spooks," remember? About the CIA?) Two hotshot Washington researchers, Robert Fink — who helped dig the dirt for "All The President's Men," so knows an awful lot — and Jeff Goldberg are beavering away for him. Already, Ear hears, there's ringing evidence that will make the book a Radical Revision of the Story of Watergate As We Know It. The whispers are that it proves that the CIA and several other government agencies toiled to sabotage the White House plumbers in mid-break-in; that the specific aim was to knock Nixon out of office; and that even Woodward and Bernstein were pawns. Oh, my. Here we go again.

EXCERPTED